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CHRISTINE JUMOC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Robert N. RICE and Bruce T. Harrison

Serial No.: 10/081,646

Filing Date: February 22, 2002

For: A METHOD AND KIT

Examiner: D. R. Gunter

Group Art Unit: 1634

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED OCTOBER 21, 2002, Paper 4

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated October 21, 2002, Paper 4, for which a response was due on January 21, 2003. A three month extension of time is enclosed to extend the deadline to respond to this Action until April 21, 2003. This response is therefore timely filed. Please enter the following amendments and remarks.

AMENDMENTS